

## CHAPTER 6

**Whither is thy beloved gone, O thou fairest among women? Whither is thy beloved turned aside that we may seek him with thee? (6:1)**

They have called her the fairest among women before (5:9). They see that she has a unique relationship with King Solomon that they know nothing about. They would like to know him in this way. They say they want to seek him with her.

The Lord does not wish to remain a secret to any of us - he wants to reveal himself in very precious and personal ways. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. ...And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart (Jeremiah 29:11-13).

**My beloved is gone down into his garden, to the beds of spices, to feed in the gardens and to gather lilies (6:2)**

She tells them where her beloved is. He is in his garden - the one he has produced in her heart. He has often been with her there (4:12-5:1). His presence abides with her there.

Her beloved is enjoying the beds of spices there. All of his sweet spices are now hers - they flow out to him - to bless him. She is understanding all that she means to him.

She knows that only lilies satisfy his heart - those who rest in his completely finished work. Those who do not toil or spin for their righteousness but believe that what he freely gave them - his own perfect righteousness - it is enough - My beloved is gathering lilies she tells them.

**I am my beloveds, and my beloved is mine: he feedeth among the lilies (6:3)**

Her heart bursts forth with love and gratitude to him for his abiding presence. She has finally learned that it is *his* precious faithfulness that is constant - not hers. The emphasis has shifted. In 2:16 she had said, "My beloved is mine, and I am his." She now understands that his desire is always towards her. She is his.

He feedeth among the lilies. She has seen this before (2:16). She views herself as one of his lilies. She believes that his completely finished work on the cross for her was enough and she understands how greatly this blesses and comforts him. My beloved is mine: he feedeth among the lilies.

**Thou art beautiful, O my love, as Tirzah, comely as Jerusalem, terrible as an army with banners (6:4)**

Her understanding of his true heart causes him to break forth with these wonderful words. Thou art beautiful, O my love. She has given him something few ever give him - her warm and appreciative *understanding* of what he has truly accomplished for her. It is finished.

She is beautiful as Tirzah (delightsomeness) - the fifth daughter of Zilophehad, (Numbers 26:33), Tirzah had an inheritance - it was rightfully hers. She fought for it and it was granted to her, (Numbers 27:1-7). The Lord finds us beautiful when we walk on every single word of his grace. It is our spiritual inheritance. Whereby are given to us exceeding great and precious promises - (II Peter 1:4, Joshua 15:18-20)

She is comely as Jerusalem, (habitation of peace). And I John saw the holy city new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband (Revelation 21:2). She looks like her husband - (Solomon - peaceful).

She is terrible as an army with banners. There have been many battles - the Lord has fought them for her and given her many victory banners. But the Lord is with me as a mighty terrible one; (Jeremiah 20:11). And the Lord gave them rest round about...the Lord delivered all their enemies into their hand (Josh.21:44).

**Turn away thine eyes from me, for they have overcome me: thy hair is as a flock of goats that appear from Gilead (6:5)**

He is overcome with love of her. He has taken notice of her discerning eyes before (4:1). Holy Spirit has given her eyes that understand him - who he really is - how much he loves her. Eyes of faith that trust him - that believe he is all he says he is.

She is full of eyes that overcome him. Cherubim eyes - And their whole

body, and their backs, and their hands, and their wings, and the wheels, were full of eyes, round about... (Ezekiel 10:12) - Living creature eyes - And before the throne... and in the midst of the throne and round about the throne, were four living creatures, full of eyes before and behind...and they were full of eyes within (Rev. 4:6-8).

Her hair is as a flock of goats that appear from Mt. Gilead. He has commended her before for her complete dependence upon him (4:1) - her hair is as a *flock* of goats - she has been pressed out of measure many times - his grace has been sufficient for her - in her weakness he has made her strong.

**Thy teeth are as a flock of sheep which go up from the washing, whereof every one beareth twins, and there is not one barren among them (6:6)**

Her full set of clean white teeth have been noticed and appreciated before by the Lord (4:2). Her ability to eat and digest his word - to understand each wonderful truth he has for her there. Her doctrinal teeth have grown in - here a little - there a little - line upon line - precept upon precept - (Isaiah 28:9-10). It has not been a thing of effort to her - it has been a delight to her - her delight is in the Lord's word - in it she meditates day and night (Psalm 1:2). She has wanted to fully know him.

**As a piece of a pomegranate are thy temples within thy locks (6:7)**

Her diligent search for him has not been a disappointment. The Lord is now commending her for the fruitfulness of her mind - her temples within her locks. Her mind is stayed on JESUS - it never forgets the blood he shed for her (blood red seeds of the pomegranate) - She remembers she is bought with a price - the precious blood of Jesus.

She has the mind of Christ, (I Corinthians 2:14-16). An humble mind - not high minded - the mind of Jesus who humbled himself and became obedient unto death - even the death of the cross. A mind that is at home with Jesus and free. She has continued with him in his word - the truth has made her free (John 8:31-32).

Her temples within her locks - her mind is submitted to her wonderful beloved in all things - the one who died and gave himself for her.

**There are threescore queens, and fourscore concubines, and virgins without**

## **number (6:8)**

There are many women in this story - representing different companies or ranks in the Lord's body. This is a love story - we will have in heaven with the Lord what we have with him now. The Lord will not force himself upon anyone. This is an affair of the heart.

There are threescore queens - King's daughters were among thy honorable women (Psalms 45:9) - believers who have made many steps toward the Lord but they have stopped somewhere - they did not go on to full maturity in Jesus - the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

There are fourscore concubines - kept by the Lord - all believers are kept by the Lord - but this class of believers try and earn their keep. They will not be his bride. They are not dead to the law that they might be married to another (Romans 7:4).

Virgins without number - an innumerable multitude of virgins - dressed in the Lord's perfect righteousness - but knowing only the savior - they have never gone on with the Lord beyond just their initial salvation. They will not be married to the Lord.

Believers are different. They possess different glories and will obtain different resurrections accordingly. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differeth from another star in glory... (I Cor. 15:41, Psalms 45:9-14).

**My dove, my undefiled is but one; she is the only one of her mother, she is the choice one of her that bare her. The daughters saw her, and blessed her; yea the queens and the concubines, and they praised her (6:9).**

My dove, my undefiled - she is separated unto him alone. She is completely in love with him - she is as the only one of her mother (mother grace - Jerusalem which is above and free - Galatians 4:26)

She is the choice one of her that bare her. Many are called - few are chosen - she is his chosen one. Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one

receives the prize? (I Corinthians 9:24). I press for the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:14).

Energetic language of running and pressing and she has won him by *resting*. Her running and her pressing are completely fulfilled in her resting. Her looking to Jesus - the author and finisher of her faith - the one who promised her he would perfect all that concerns her.

She cherishes and fellowships with the Lord - He changes her into his own image - even unto the measure and stature of the fullness of Christ. We all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory - even as by the Spirit of the Lord. (II Corinthians 3:18)

And the king *loved* Esther above all the women, and she obtained *grace* and *favor* in his sight more than all the virgins, so that he set the royal crown upon her head (Esther 2:17).

The daughters saw her and blessed her; yea the queens and the concubines, and they praised her. The onlookers in this story recognize that his choice one - his undefiled - has a completely different kind of relationship than they do with the Lord.

The Lord is not a respecter of persons - he has wooed them all - but only a small few respond to his tender and beautiful overtures - a love story in every sense of the word - no one is forced in this relationship to respond. It is an affair of hearts - two hearts responding to one another.

**Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners (6:10)**

The Lord turns asks the question - who is she - and he has before answered it - she is my dove, my undefiled. She looks forth as the morning - she enjoys each new day with me - This is the day the Lord has made - we will rejoice and be glad in it (Psalms 118:24). Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord (Ephesians 5:19).

She looks forth as the morning with joyful expectation of that day when I will come for her. She is awake with the knowledge of my soon return. Therefore let

us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober (I Thessalonians 5:5).

She is fair as the moon - a light in a dark world. She reflects the light of Jesus. ...whereunto you do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place,.. (II Peter 1:19). She is clear as the sun - free from confusion and doubt - warm and cheerful and a light in herself. Ezekiel sees her as coals of fire and the appearance of lamps (Ezekiel 1:13).

She is terrible as an army with banners. He has taken notice of this before, (6:4). She has lived a life set for the defense of the gospel - with her face towards the mercy seat - the Lord Jesus - protecting it - ...to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins ... To declare again I say his righteousness (Romans 3:25-26). He has given her many victory banners and enabled her - having done all to stand.

**I went down into the garden of nuts to see the fruits of the valley, and to see whether the vine flourished, and the pomegranates budded (6:11)**

He has walked often with her in her enclosed garden - her garden of pleasant fruits and spices, the fountain of gardens he has made her.

Now he is walking in the garden of nuts - her fully mature garden - a garden ready for harvest. It is his last walk in the garden before her sudden departure from the earth. He has produced in her all that he ever longed for her to be. Her vines are fruitful - she is full of budding promise. She is mature and he is fully satisfied with her. It is time for the rapture. Jesus is coming soon.

The signs of the times declare it and not only are her vines flourishing but the vines of the house of Israel are flourishing too. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel (Isaiah 5:7). God's chosen people - Israel have been gathered back to her homeland and established as a nation since 1948 - direct fulfilled prophecy - always associated with the return of Jesus. It is time to look up - our redemption draweth nigh.

**Or ever I was aware, my soul made me like the chariots of Amminadib (6:12)**

Before I knew it - the Lord is saying - one moment I was in my beloved's garden and in the twinkling of an eye - she was here with me. My soul made me like the chariots of Amminadib, (my willing princely people) -

All believers will not go this way with Jesus. Only those who are longing for him in the sweet wonderful bridegroom way will be caught up in this first and blessed rapture. You cannot make yourself have this longing for him. You have to take the journey with him personally in your heart - in his word - to know him in this precious way.

The rapture will not take this choice lady by surprise - she has been watching and waiting for him. This day will not overtake her as a thief in the night

**Return, return O Shulamite; return, return, that we may look upon thee. What will ye see in the Shulamite? As it were the company of two armies. (6:13)**

The Shulamite is gone now. She has been caught up to meet the Lord in the air. They miss her - they want her to return. The crowds who have said they wanted to seek her beloved with her - to know him like she does - it is too late now for them in this way. The door of that opportunity has closed. There is a place for them - but they will not have the place she has - beside him on his throne.

She is removed from the earth before the tribulation begins. Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation which shall come upon all the world... (Rev. 3:10). If by any means I might attain unto the out resurrection from among the dead (Phil 3:11).

She is seen as a company of two armies. The Lord has taken much notice of her warfare's for his sake - the grace and strength she has allowed him to be to her in them - the victories he has given her. With his dove by his side he will usher in his millennial reign (Rev. 19:11).